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SIRHAN 8/23/71

1ST LD 139

BY YVONNE PATTEN

LOS ANGELES(CNS)--THE COUNTY GRAND JURY CONCLUDED TODAY ITS PROBE INTO THE HANDLING OF THE EXHIBITS FROM THE SIRHAN SIRHAN CASE AND IT WAS DISCLOSED THAT NO CRIMINAL INDICTMENTS WILL RESULT.

AT THE END OF FIVE DAYS OF CLOSED-DOOR HEARINGS DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY RICHARD HECHT, WHO PRESENTED EVIDENCE TO THE JURY, TOLD NEWSMEN, "WE HAVE NOT ASKED THE GRAND JURY TO CONSIDER INDICTMENTS IN THIS CASE."

HE SAID THE JURY CAN NOW ISSUE A REPORT ON THE INVESTIGATION OR MAKE SOME RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

HECHT MAINTAINS THAT THE JURY'S PRIMARY CONCERN WAS WHETHER THE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE PROPERLY DISCHARGED ITS DUTIES UNDER JUDICIAL ORDERS BARRING ANYONE FROM EXAMINING THE EXHIBITS WITHOUT COURT PERMISSION.

HE ALSO DISCLOSED THAT "THERE IS ~~NO~~ INDICATION THAT SOME COPIES OF EXHIBITS USED DURING (SIRHAN'S) TRIAL ~~ARE~~ PRESENTLY UNACCOUNTED FOR."

THESE PARTICULAR EXHIBITS WERE DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE, HE SAID, BUT WOULD NOT ELABORATE.

AS HECHT SPOKE TO NEWSMEN, GRAND JURORS TOOK A FIELD TRIP TO THE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE TO ACQUAINT THEMSELVES WITH THE PHYSICAL PREMISES.

(MORE)

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